Claims

1. A method of joining the interfacing ends of cables, one to another, each cable comprising a first plurality of conductor strands, said method comprising

(a) providing each of said ends with an enlarged terminal portion of greater diameter than said cable adjacent said end;

(b) inserting said ends into a connecting tube;

(c) providing said tube with an outer layer of an explosive charge, and

(d) detonating the explosive layer so as to compress the connecting tube around the conductor strands.

2. A method as defined in claim 1 comprising providing said ends with a terminal enlarging member longitudinally of said cable through said terminal portion to effect said enlargement.

3. A method as defined in claim 2 wherein said enlarging member is a metal rod.

4. A method as defined in claim 3 wherein said metal rod has a flat head.

5. A method as defined in claim 4 wherein said flat heads abut one to another within said connecting tube prior to said detonation.

6. A method as defined in claim 2 wherein said terminal enlarging member is a metal inner sleeve, which inner sleeve embraces at least one of said conductor strands at an inner location within said plurality of said conductor strands.

7. A method as defined in claim 6 wherein said metal sleeve embraces a second plurality of said conductor strands at an inner location within said first plurality of said conductor strands, wherein said second plurality is a portion of said first plurality of conductor strands.

8. A method as defined in claim 6 wherein said metal sleeve has a flat head.

9. A method as defined in claim 7 wherein said metal sleeve has a flat head.

10. A method as defined in claim 8 wherein said flat heads abut one to another within said connecting tube prior to said detonation.

11. A method as defined in claim 9 wherein said flat heads abut one to another within said connecting tube prior to said detonation.

12. A method as defined in claim 7 wherein said second plurality of conductor strands at an inner location within said first plurality of conductor strands are formed of steel, while the remainder of said first plurality are formed of aluminum or alloy thereof.

13. A method as defined in claim 1 wherein said explosive layer comprises a first portion of explosive and a second portion of explosive separated therefrom by an intervening interportion distance, wherein each of said first and second portions has a greater thickness than at said interportion distance, and wherein said first and second portions are disposed on the outside surface of said connecting tube such that said interportion surrounds each of said enlarged terminal portions of said ends of said cables and said first and second portion surround said cables adjacent said ends, prior to said detonation, as to effect a greater explosive compaction force onto said cables adjacent said ends relative to the forces exerted on said terminal portions.

14. A connector comprising a connecting tube and a layer of explosive as defined in claim 13.

15. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 1.

16. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 2.

17. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 4.

18. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 7.

19. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 8.

20. A joined cable assembly comprising a connecting tube and a joined cable when produced by a method as defined in claim 12.